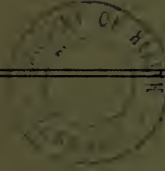


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BOROUGH OF FARNWORTH



Annual Report

—OF THE—

Medical Officer of Health

Including the Report of the
SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

1958

COULTHURSTS, FARNWORTH

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*With
the Compliments of the
Medical Officer
of Health*

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COULTHURSTS, FARNWORTH

MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE

*THE MAYOR (Councillor GEORGE BENYON J.P.) *ex officio*

Chairman: *Alderman J. A. DEAN

Vice-Chairman: *Councillor J. G. SEDDON

Members:

Alderman J. BROOKS, C.C.

*Alderman R. MATTHEWS

Alderman W. WELSBY

Councillor T. BARWISE

*Councillor G. BLOOR

Councillor H. BRINDLE

*Councillor G. K. BROWN

*Councillor J. W. GEERE, J.P., C.C.

Councillor J. HARDY (Miss)

Councillor P. SMITH

* *Members of Sub-Committee*

STAFF OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health:

R. SYDNEY DAVIDSON, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Senior Public Health Inspector:

H. CORSCADDEN, CERT. R.S.I. & S.I.E. JT. BOARD,
R.S.I. Food Inspection, R.S.I. Smoke Inspector.
(Resigned 31/12/58)

Public Health Inspector:

W. J. WOLSTENHOLME, R.S.I. & S.I.E. JT. BOARD
R.S.I. Food Inspection).

Pupil Public Health Inspector:

C. L. GARSIDE.

Clerks:

Mrs. M. M. TAYLOR.

Mrs. P. BRISTOW (Resigned July, 1958).

Miss C. WILKINSON (Appointed July, 1958).

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL.

Mr. Mayor, Madam, Gentlemen,

I present the Annual Report on the health of the Borough, together with the Senior Public Health Inspector's report, for 1958.

The vital statistics are unusual in that they show the highest death rate for ten years and an increase in the number of illegitimate births.

In 1956 the number of deaths from heart disease was 139 as opposed to 126 in 1951 when the death rate of 14.7 was the highest of the previous decade. This year, however, the number of deaths from coronary diseases has decreased to 134, but the number of deaths from respiratory ailments such as bronchitis, pneumonia and asthma has increased to 57, the highest since 1951. There is no doubt that air pollution contributes to this rise. Unless some control is exercised over smoke, both industrial and domestic, factory and dwelling house, the number of deaths from respiratory diseases will remain high.

The number of illegitimate births—5.2% of the total live and still births, is the highest for the past ten years. This is a sad reflection on the lack of parental control and it stresses the need for intelligent sex education in our schools. In our modern society where so much, perhaps too much, importance is given to teenage attitudes, where juvenile emotions are sharpened and pandered to by commercial interests, it is hardly surprising that we should have trouble of this sort among our young people. Nevertheless, the ultimate blame for these unfortunate occurrences which often ruin the lives of our young citizens, must rest with schools and parents.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Little comment is needed on the infectious diseases recorded during the year. Diphtheria has become a forgotten menace and Scarlet Fever of doubtful significance. Food Poisoning and Dysentery are of some concern and investigations into the source of infection entail a considerable amount of work. The maintenance of clean habits by food handlers in food premises and in the home, and the strict attention by everyone to personal cleanliness after visits to the lavatory, would almost eliminate food poisoning and dysentery.

There has been a decrease in the number of cases of Whooping Cough. Since 1956 a high proportion of babies in the Borough has been immunised against the disease, but it is too early to accredit this preventive measure with the low incidence of the disease in the last few years.

Measles and Chicken Pox are the commonest of communicable diseases and no practicable form of immunisation has yet been found for them. Chicken Pox is not a notifiable disease and, unless there is an epidemic of Smallpox, when it may be made notifiable, does not directly concern the Department. Notification of a case of Measles is, however, compulsory although it is a less serious disease than it was thirty years ago. It occurs mainly at the end and beginning of the year, late Autumn and early Spring, and has epidemic cycles.

OLD PEOPLE

There is still no proper provision made in the Borough for the institutional care of old people. A voluntary organisation, the Old People's Welfare Council, which during the year appointed Mrs. White, 3, Elton Avenue, Farnworth, as district organiser, has provided food parcels at Christmas and Easter, meals-on-wheels, and has worked magnificently for the aged of the community. A hostel is needed for those whose relatives shirk, or for genuine reasons are unable to meet, their responsibilities in the care of the feeble.

Loneliness is still the curse of old age. Just as unused machines decay, so people deprived of common intercourse tend to develop senile dementia. Every week we hear of old people suffering from delusions that someone is boring through the floor to steal their electricity, or someone is trying to poison them, or the milkman is stealing their coal. People in this state are troublesome citizens and their attitude provokes a feeling of hostility in their neighbours which in turn leads to a greater and more real sense of persecution. So the vicious circle goes. There are four Over-Sixty Clubs in the Borough which do their best to help the old people, but these organisations can do little to help the bed-ridden and the very feeble. For such, an old people's hostel, which is a home as well as a meeting place, is urgently required. Meanwhile, volunteers to visit old people in their homes to listen and talk to them are greatly needed. The young people of the town could help in this respect.

HOUSING

In 1956 the Borough drew up a five-year plan for slum clearance. This proposed the demolition of some 600 houses. So far only 88 dwellings have been razed. This is slow progress indeed, yet with an increase in staff this programme could make quicker progress.

HIRE PURCHASE

During the course of the year house inspection has revealed some amazing results of the hire purchase boom. A newly married, out of work youth of twenty years with an ill-fed and poorly clad baby, an under-nourished, feckless young wife, and no money for food, owns a tape recorder. A house whose only floor covering is one small rug, possesses a Hoover. A living room has little furniture, beds made up of rags and old coats, and a monster television set. Hire purchase is both a boon and a menace. A boon to those who can afford to invest a small part of their income each week in a scheme that promotes compulsory saving, and a menace to those who regard the system as a means of obtaining unnecessary luxuries simply by a small initial payment and a signature to a document they probably do not read or understand. It would seem that some control correlating a family's income with the amount permissible for hire purchase is required.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

At the beginning of this report it was suggested that the increase in the death rate might be due to air pollution. This is a grave problem in Farnworth, although the Borough will shortly embark on a national scheme to promote smokeless zones in the area. Some indication of the extent of pollution is being estimated at Farnworth Grammar School and this work by the Chemistry Department of the school is much appreciated.

As ever, I am mindful of the help and encouragement which the Chairman and members of the Health Committee always give and I am grateful for the loyal co-operation of the staff of the Health Department.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

R. SYDNEY DAVIDSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS OF THE AREA

Area	1,504 statute acres
Population	27,520 Estimated mid-1958
	28,614 Census 1951.
Number of Inhabited houses, 1931	7,104
Number of Inhabited houses, 1957	9,296
Rateable Value (1st April, 1957)	£235,603
Sum represented by 1d. rate	£900

VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1958

BIRTHS:	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	213	211	424
Illegitimate	12	11	23
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL	225	222	447
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

STILL BIRTHS:	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	5	6	11
Illegitimate	1	—	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL	6	6	12
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

	<i>Farnworth</i>	<i>England & Wales</i>
Birth Rate per 1,000 population	16.1	16.4
Still Births per 1,000 total births	26.1	21.6

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR:	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	9	4	13
Illegitimate	—	—	—
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL	9	4	13
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

INFANT MORTALITY RATE:	<i>Farnworth</i>	<i>England & Wales</i>
(all infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 live births)	29.1	22.5
Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age	11	
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 total births	2.18	0.43

DEATH RATE:	<i>Farnworth</i>	<i>England & Wales</i>
Per 1,000 population	15.5	11.7

CAUSES OF DEATH IN ALL AGES IN 1958

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
Tuberculosis, respiratory	3	2
Meningococcal infection	—	1
Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	6	4
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	10	1
Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	4
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	5
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	23	13
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	2	—
Diabetes	1	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system	20	37
Coronary disease, angina	38	17
Hypertension with heart disease	6	2
Other heart disease	33	46
Other circulatory disease	8	28
Influenza	—	1
Pneumonia	14	8
Bronchitis	20	14
Other diseases of respiratory system	1	—
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	3	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	2
Nephritis and nephrosis	1	—
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	—
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	1
Congenital malformations	2	—
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	15	18
Motor vehicle accidents	5	1
All other accidents	4	3
Suicide	4	1
TOTAL	221	213

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED
DURING THE YEAR 1958

TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES	Total cases at all ages	AGE PERIODS — YEARS										25 & over	Age un- known
		0—	1—	2—	3—	4—	5—	10—	15—				
Scarlet Fever.....	33	—	1	1	3	8	16	3	—	1	—	—	—
Whooping Cough...	40	4	10	9	5	5	7	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute poliomyelitis Paralytic	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Non-paralytic	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Measles (excluding rubella)	22	1	3	5	3	4	6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	22	—	2	2	2	2	8	—	1	5	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
		0—	5—	15—	45—	65 and over	Age un- known						
Acute pneumonia (primary and influenzal)	18	5	4	2	4	3	—						
Typhoid Fever	1	—	—	1	—	—	—						
Erysipelas	2	—	—	—	1	1	—						
Food poisoning	11	1	5	3	2	—	—						
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	9	—	1	3	4	1	—						
Tuberculosis (Non-respiratory)	4	—	1	3	—	—	—						
Puerperal pyrexia	2	—	—	2	—	—	—						

DIPHTHERIA

There were no cases of diphtheria in the resident population of Farnworth during 1958.

FOOD POISONING

Eleven cases of food poisoning were notified during the year 1958. In 9 cases the organism isolated was salmonella typhi-murium and in 2 cases the organism was not identified.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

INSPECTIONS DURING 1958

During the year some 1,921 premises were visited for the purpose of administering the provisions of the various Acts and Orders.

	<i>No. of visits</i>
Houses—Housing Act	223
Public Health Act	564
Rent Act, 1957	230
Overcrowding	10
Disinfestations	50
Movable Dwellings	12
Accumulations and Tips	38
Closets—Water	9
Waste water	22
Drainage work	717
Dustbins	14
Entertainment Houses	9
Factories	28
Problem families	16
Interviews	31
Keeping of Animals and Birds	12
Fylde Street Subsidence	424
Pet Shops	1
Rag Flock Act	1
Rodent Control	313
Schools	6
Clean Air Act	309
Water Supply	2
Slaughterhouses	237
Meat Shops	42
Market	66
Food Preparation Premises	48
Ice Cream Premises	7
Restaurants and Cafés	37
Fish Fryers	14
Fishmongers and Poulterers	17
Grocers	83
Greengrocers	2
Hospitals	11
Food Hygiene Regulations	102
Dairies	25
Milkshops	7
Milk sampling	21
Food and Drugs sampling	3
Licensed premises	9
Diseases of Animals Act	2

Bakehouses	47
Infectious Diseases	170
Disinfections	1
Miscellaneous	132
Defects or nuisances:—	
Number discovered	452
Number abated	418
Number of notices served:—	
Informal	193
Statutory	4

WATER SUPPLY

The town is supplied with water by Bolton Corporation. The water is derived from upland gathering grounds and is filtered and treated before going into supply. It is soft in nature and satisfactory in quality and quantity. All dwellings in the Borough are supplied directly with water.

The supply was from Ferns Pressure Filters, Sweetloves Open Sand Filters and the Manchester Haweswater Undertaking. A total number of 8 samples of both raw and filtered water taken from Ferns Pressure Filters and Sweetloves Open Sand Filters were subjected to full chemical analysis and 100 samples of raw and 102 samples of filtered water to bacteriological examination by the Bolton Borough Analyst. In addition, 50 samples of water from the supply of the Manchester Haweswater Undertaking were examined. The results showed that the filtered and treated water was of excellent quality, B.Coli being absent in almost all cases. Where 100% bacteriological purity was not obtained, a second sample taken immediately proved to be satisfactory. All water is treated before passing into supply.

From tests made weekly the water was shown to have no significant plumbo-solvent action.

No action was required to be taken in respect of any form of contamination.

An additional 75 yards of 2in. and 252 yards of 9in. water main were laid within the area during the year.

DRAINAGE

The inspection and testing of all new drainage work and of alterations to existing drainage was maintained during the year.

The number of waste water closets was again reduced. A grant of £10 was made in respect of each conversion and the overall situation is as follows:—

Number of privy middens	3
Number of closets attached to these middens	3
Number of pail closets	6
Number of dry ashpits (excluding middens)	Nil
Number of trough closets	Nil
Number of waste water closets	28
Number of fresh water closets	10495
Number of houses on water carriage system	9296
Number of waste water closets converted to fresh water closets during the year	11

The privies and pail closets left in the area are on outlying farms, where it is not practicable to connect to the public sewer.

REFUSE COLLECTION

This is carried out under the control of the Borough Surveyor, a weekly collection of the contents of 10,500 dustbins being maintained by three covered motor vehicles. The refuse, after the recovery of salvageable materials is disposed of by tipping.

VERMIN INFESTATION

78 premises were treated during the year for the destruction of insect pests. Few houses were found to be infested with bed bugs.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

The work of assessing and meeting the problems of reducing atmospheric pollution has continued. There is an increasing public awareness of the need for cleaner air, and a better understanding of the ways in which it can be achieved.

Regular measurements of the amount of pollution in Farnworth's atmosphere are being taken, thus giving a picture of pollution levels over the year in various parts of the town. The results of these tests strengthen the view that domestic sources account for at least half of the total pollution. Most house fires burn raw bituminous coal on open grates, the smoke from which is discharged at low level.

Further steps have been taken by industry to reduce smoke emission, and this trend continues. Fuel can be an expensive item in the running costs of industry and for that reason alone managements are aware of the need to burn it efficiently and therefore smokelessly.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

Pet shops are inspected in co-operation with the R.S.P.C.A. Two pet shops were re-registered in Farnworth in 1958.

SHOPS AND OFFICES :	<i>Defects &</i>	
	<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Contraventions</i>
(a) Shops Act, 1950, relating to ventilation and temperature of shops and to sanitary conveniences	28	—
(b) Public Health Act, 1936, relating to conditions in offices, i.e., ventilation, sanitary conveniences, etc. .	1	—

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948

1. INSPECTIONS :—	<i>No. of</i>		
	<i>No. of inspections</i>	<i>written notices</i>	<i>Occupiers prosecuted</i>
<i>Premises</i>			
Factories without mechanical power	6	—	—
Factories with mechanical power ...	18	—	—
Other premises	28	—	—
Total	52	—	—

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND Nil

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

The destruction and control of rats and mice remains an important aspect of the Department's work. The number of visits for this purpose increased, although the number of properties found to be infested was less.

Infestations, when found, were inclined to be smaller than in previous years, probably due to frequent visiting by the rodent operator and correspondingly frequent replacement of poison bait.

Experience has shown that the source of many surface infestations is the town's sewer system, and regular treatment of the sewers with poison bait has been maintained, positive results being obtained.

DETAILS OF INSPECTIONS

	TYPE OF PROPERTY			
	Dwelling houses	Agri-cultural	Others including Business and industrial	TOTAL
Number of properties in local authority's district..	9296	6	1170	10,472
Number of properties inspected by the local authority, primarily for rodent infestation	624	4	322	950
Number of properties found to be infested by rats and mice	310	2	145	457
Number of infested properties treated by the local authority	310	2	145	457

SEWER TREATMENTS

Dates of treatment	5th May to 19th May	18th Nov. to 1st Dec.
Total number of manholes	1084	1084
Bait and poison	Bread mash & arsenic	Warfarin with P.N.P.
Number of manholes baited	914	70
Number of manholes showing bait take	82	20

PUBLIC BATHS

The public baths are owned by the Corporation and are under the control of the Health Committee.

MORTUARY

The public mortuary, situated in Gas Street, is the responsibility of the Health Committee, but its use is mainly determined by the County police. Conditions are far from satisfactory and a mortuary of modern design is still an urgent need.

FOOD HYGIENE

PREPARATION, SALE AND STORAGE OF FOOD

Although 363 inspections and visits have been made to premises where food is prepared, sold or stored, staffing difficulties have prevented an organised approach to this essential part of the Department's work. Regular visits to each food establishment are needed to ensure that satisfactory standards are not only being achieved but are maintained.

The general attitude of food handlers to matters of hygiene is improving, due to some measure to the changing reactions of shoppers, who are less ready to overlook unhygienic standards in food shops.

MILK SUPPLY

The number of milk distributors registered by the local authority at the end of the year was as follows:—

Dairies in Farnworth	2
Dairy farms in the district	6
Shops other than dairies	158
Premises outside the district	3

Eighteen dealers' licences to retail tuberculin tested milk were issued.

The number of licences to retail heat treated milk was 17 for pasteurised and 156 for sterilised milk.

Twelve samples of raw milk were taken for examination for the presence of tuberculosis; all were satisfactory.

ICE CREAM

Four premises are registered as being suitable for the manufacture of ice cream and were so used during the year.

Seven premises were registered during the year for the sale of ice cream, making a total of 128 registered in Farnworth.

Seven inspections of ice cream dealers' and manufacturers' premises were made during the year, and three samples of ice cream were taken, the results of examination being in all cases satisfactory.

PRESERVED FOOD

Forty-eight inspections were made of premises used in connection with the sale of preserved food. Twenty-nine such premises are registered in Farnworth.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS

Two private slaughter-houses are licensed in the Borough, only one of which was actually in use during the year.

All the animals slaughtered were inspected, and there follows a table of the number of animals inspected and the numbers found to be diseased.

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	164	24	Nil	1264	Nil
Number inspected	164	24	Nil	1264	Nil
All diseases except tuberculosis :—					
Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	4	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	2.4%	4.1%	Nil	Nil	Nil
Tuberculosis only :—					
Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	1	5	Nil	Nil	Nil
Percentage of number inspected affected with tuberculosis	0.60%	20.8%	Nil	Nil	Nil

Number of carcasses found to be affected with
cysticercus bovis Nil

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACTS, 1938 AND 1954

During the year 4 persons had their licences to slaughter animals renewed.

DETAILS OF FOODSTUFFS CONDEMNED

<i>Articles condemned</i>	<i>Weight</i>
Tinned foods from retail shops	1,540 lbs.
Other Foods (meat, eggs and flour)	274 lbs.

NUMBER OF FOOD PREMISES IN DISTRICT AT THE END OF THE YEAR

Type of Business	No.
General grocers and provision dealers	142
Greengrocers and fruiterers (including those selling wet fish, game, etc.)	30
Fishmongers (including those selling poultry, game, etc.)	5
Meat shops (butchers, purveyors of cooked and preserved meats, tripe, etc.)	37
Bakers and/or confectioners	46
Fried fish shops	26
Shops selling mainly sugar confectionery, minerals, ice cream, etc. .	17
Licensed premises, clubs, canteens, restaurants, cafés, snack bars and similar catering establishments	93

HAWKERS

13 hawkers are registered in Farnworth. No new registrations were made during the year.

ADULTERATION OF FOOD

The County Council is the Food and Drugs Authority under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, and samples are taken by the County Sanitary Officer in collaboration with the local Public Health Inspector.

Particulars of samples taken during the year.

Milk	89
Other articles	60

The other 60 articles comprised:—

3 Pudding mix	2 Castor oil
1 Mustard compound	1 Arrowroot
1 Sweets	3 Custard powder
1 Sugar	1 Nasal inhaler
1 Laxative chewing gum	1 Meat—canned
1 Teething powders	4 Butter
2 Salad dressing	1 Mineral water
4 Margarine	2 Orange drink
2 Treacle	1 Boric acid crystals
2 Malt, milk & cocoa beverage	1 Cascara tablets
1 Lard	2 Olive oil
1 Throat mixture	3 Bread
1 Baby food	4 Mincemeat
1 Pickles	1 Table jelly
1 Blackcurrant syrup	1 Condensed milk
1 Gripe water	1 Suet
1 Bicarbonate of soda	1 Cake mix
1 British wine	1 Christmas pudding
1 Instant icing	1 Flour confectionery
	1 Cheese

The samples were submitted for analysis to the County Analyst and were reported to be genuine with the exception of those listed below.

Type	Result of Analysis	Action taken
Corned beef	Skin and subcutaneous tissue with adhering hair, weighing in all 3.07 gms. discovered. The hair appeared to be bovine and to have been canned with the meat.	Importers communicated with.
Swiss rolls	Contained a loosely woven piece of cloth $3\frac{1}{2}" \times 1\frac{1}{2}"$ which weighed 1.24 gms.	Legal proceedings. Bakers fined £5. with £4.18.0. costs.
Butter Loaf	Butter content 4%. Non-fatty milk solids 3.5%, yet butter placed first in list of ingredients and flour last.	Bakers communicated with.

HOUSING

NUMBER OF NEW HOUSES ERECTED DURING THE YEAR:—

	<i>Houses</i>	<i>Flats</i>
(i) By the local authority	36	Nil
(ii) By other local authorities	Nil	Nil
(iii) By other bodies or persons	4	Nil

1. INSPECTIONS OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR:—

1. (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected formally or informally for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 230
- (b) Number of inspections, formal or informal, made for the purpose 787
2. Dwelling houses unfit for human habitation and not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered fit:
 - (a) Number found during year 3
 - (b) Total number (or estimated number) existing at end of year 620
3. Number of dwelling houses found during the year to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation but capable of being rendered fit 137

2. HOUSES DEMOLISHED:—	<i>Houses</i>	<i>Displaced</i>	
In Clearance Areas:	<i>Demolished</i>	<i>during year</i>	<i>Persons Families</i>
1. Houses unfit for human habitation	41	126	37
2. Houses included by reason of bad arrangement, etc.	Nil	Nil	Nil
3. Houses on land acquired under Section 43(2), Housing Act 1957...	19	39	16
Not in Clearance Areas:			
4. As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 17(1) Housing Act, 1957	11	23	10
5. Local Authority owned houses certified unfit by the Medical Officer of Health	Nil	Nil	Nil
6. Houses unfit for human habitation where action has been taken under local Acts	Nil	Nil	Nil
7. Unfit houses included in Unfitness Orders	Nil	Nil	Nil

		<i>Displaced during year</i>		
		<i>Number</i>	<i>Persons</i>	<i>Families</i>
3.	UNFIT HOUSES CLOSED:—			
1.	Under Sections 16(4), 17(1) and 35(1), Housing Act, 1957	Nil	Nil	Nil
2.	Under Sections 17(3) and 26, Housing Act, 1957	Nil	Nil	Nil
3.	Parts of buildings closed under Section 18, Housing Act, 1957	Nil	Nil	Nil
4.	UNFIT HOUSES MADE FIT AND HOUSES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE REMEDIED:—			
		By Owner	By Local Authority	
1.	After informal action by local authority	110	—	
2.	After formal notice under—			
	(a) Public Health Acts	1	1	
	(b) Sections 9 & 16, Housing Act 1957	Nil	Nil	
3.	Under Section 24, Housing Act, 1957 ..	Nil	—	
5.	UNFIT HOUSES IN TEMPORARY USE (HOUSING ACT, 1957):—			
		Number of Houses (1)	No. of separate dwellings contained in col. (1) (2)	
	Position at end of year:			
1.	Retained for temporary accommodation:			
	(a) Under Section 48	Nil	Nil	
	(b) Under Section 17(2)	Nil	Nil	
	(c) Under Section 46	Nil	Nil	
2.	Licensed for temporary occupation under Sections 34 or 53	Nil	—	
6.	PURCHASE OF HOUSES BY AGREEMENT:—			
		Number of Houses (1)	No. of occupants of houses in column (1) (2)	
	Houses in Clearance Areas other than those included in confirmed Clearance Orders, purchased during the year	7	Nil	

7. HOUSING ACT, 1949, & HOUSING (FINANCIAL PROVISIONS) ACT, 1958—IMPROVEMENT GRANTS, ETC. :—

	No. of Schemes	No. of dwelling houses or other buildings affected
(a) Submitted by private individuals to local authority	31	31
(b) Approved by local authority	31	31
(c) Submitted by local authority to Ministry	—	—
(d) Finally approved by Ministry	—	—
(e) Work completed	31	31

HOUSING CONDITIONS

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

There are 9,296 houses in the Borough, of which 3,155 are Council owned and 6,141 are privately owned. Many of the latter are old, sub-standard, and lacking in essential amenities; rising dampness is prevalent and structural movement is not uncommon. Although 71 houses were demolished in the year, at least 600 remain to be dealt with by clearance.

SUFFICIENCY OF SUPPLY OF HOUSES

There are approximately 1,400 applicants on the Council's housing list for all types of houses.

